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THE
DEAF**

ALL ways able.

Jeffrey S. Bravin, Executive Director



December 6, 2019

Honorable Members of the West Hartford Town Council

Town of West Hartford

Town Hall

50 South Main Street

West Hartford, Connecticut 06107

RE: Historic Restoration of the Gallaudet Monument (1854) located at The American School of the Deaf

Dear Mayor Cantor and Honorable Members of the Town Council:

This application is hereby filed for the restoration of the historic (1854) monument on the grounds of the American School for the Deaf conforming to West Hartford Zoning Regulations – Chapter 177-45 – Permits for the construction of a monument or statue.

Briefly, the Gallaudet Monument (1854) is of historic significance to the State of Connecticut and the nation. Historic Restoration of the Gallaudet Monument (1854) will entail the preservation of the original marble column and text blocks and the restoration of the monument in its original design with the replication of missing and severely damaged sections in natural, granite stone. Partial and fragile relief sculptures will be resculpted as needed to completed missing design and cast in bronze. The monument will be assembled in its entirety to restore this poignant edifice. Additional historical and preservation information can be reviewed in the submittals.

The submitted drawings and narrative address the following standards which will be applied by the Town Council;

177-45: C.1

The proposed reconstructed monument will be in harmony with the surrounding buildings and adjacent properties in that it would be located centered in the expansive open lawn area at the school's entrance approx. 120' west of North Main Street and behind existing building setbacks. The proposed monument location would be behind the existing ASD entrance signs and landscaping with no structures near it.

177-45: C.2

Existing residential structures in the area (neighborhood) are of older stock which will not aesthetically clash with the character of the monument or visa-versa. While the new ASD administration bldg. (GCEC), is a modern bldg., the central steeply sloped glass roof tends to frame the monument as it is centered on the GCEC as well as lawn. This central axis of the site organizes elements from the entrance signs/plantings, new monument, lawn, tiger logo and the GCEC.

177-45: C.3

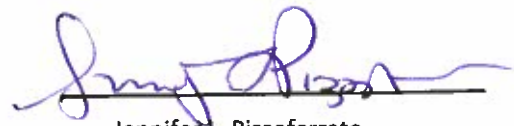
The proposed monument location would not present any visual impairment to either pedestrians or vehicular traffic due to its approx. 120' setback from North Main Street and approx. 50' distance from the two flanking boulevard access drives. Additionally, the narrow width (6') of the monument base would not block any sightlines.

177-45: c.4

There should be no adverse effect on adjacent property values as the monument would be an asset to the neighborhood due to its historical and visual nature. The proposed lighting consists of 4 3' ht. lighted bollards directing soft light down onto the surrounding walk and not directed up onto the spire. The monuments presence has the possibility of not only enhancing the historical nature of the ASD but also enhancing the immediate neighborhood identity.

The application fee required pursuant to Zoning Regulations – Chapter 177-50 is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted.



Jennifer L. Pizzoferrato
Director of Finance and Operations